REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are currently pending in the present application, with Claims 1, 10, 14, and 18 being amended. Reconsideration and reexamination of the claims are respectfully requested.

Applicant held a telephonic interview with the Examiner on April 15, during which Applicant and the Examiner discussed in detail the scope of the claims, including the meaning of "event data" as then recited in the claims. Applicant and the Examiner agreed that, if the terms "event data" in Claims 1, 10, 14, and 18 are to be amended into "MIDI event data" to more clearly recite the invention, the Examiner will reconsider the rejections. Applicant reiterates the Remarks that were made in the Response that was filed on March 31, 2003 in that neither Sato nor Ohba contain any disclosure or suggestion of the parameter setting module as recited in the amended claims.

With respect to Claim 22, which does not recite event data, Applicant respectfully submit that none of the cited references, including Sato and Ohba, contain any disclosure or suggestion of a parameter setting module that is operable to select and set the channels of music control information to the movable parts of an animated object. Applicant refers to Fig. 8 of the drawings as an illustration of a user's ability to select and correlate movable part of an animated object to a specific channel of musical control information. This aspect of the invention is not taught or suggested by either Sato or Ohba. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submit that Claim 22 is in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination of the claims are requested, and an entry of the amendments after final, as discussed over the telephone, is also requested. If the Examiner believes it would further advance the prosecution of the present application, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

6

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant(s) petition(s) for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 39303.20052.00.

Respectfully submitted,

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la-648988

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 10, 14, and 18 have been amended in the following manner:

1.   (Thrice amended)   A system for animating movable parts of an object along with music, said system comprising:

a sequencer module that sequentially provides music control information in correspondence with the music to be played, the music control information [containing] including a plurality of types of MIDI event data associated to the music to be played;

a parameter setting module operable to select and set the types of MIDI event data to the movable parts of the object such that the respective movable parts correspond to the types of MIDI event data selected and set by the parameter setting module;

an audio module for generating a sound in accordance with the music control information to thereby play the music; and

a video module responsive to the music control information for controlling movements of the respective movable parts in correspondence to the types of MIDI event data [contained] included in the music control information sequentially provided from the sequencer module, thereby generating a motion image of the object in matching with progression of the music.

la-648988

10. (Thrice amended) An apparatus for animating movable parts of an object along with music, said apparatus comprising:

sequencer means for sequentially providing performance data of the music, the performance data [containing] including a plurality of types of MIDI event data associated to the music to be played;

setting means operable for selecting and setting the types of MIDI event data to the movable parts of the object such that the respective movable parts correspond to the types of MIDI event data selected and set by the setting means;

audio means for generating a sound in accordance with the performance data to thereby perform the music; and

video means responsive to the performance data for controlling movements of the respective movable parts in correspondence to the types of MIDI event data [contained] included in the performance data sequentially provided from the sequencer means, thereby generating a motion image of the object in matching with the progression of the music.

14. (Thrice amended) A method of animating movable parts of an object in association with music, said method comprising the step of:

sequentially providing performance data to perform the music, the performance data [containing] including a plurality of types of MIDI event data associated to the music to be played;

selecting and setting the types of MIDI event data to the movable parts of the object such that the respective movable parts correspond to the types of MIDI event data selected and set;

generating a sound in accordance with the performance data to thereby perform the music; and

generating a motion image of the object in matching with the progression of the music, wherein the step of generating a motion image is in response to the performance data for controlling movements of the respective movable parts in correspondence to the types of MIDI event data [contained] included in the performance data sequentially provided by said step of sequentially providing performance data.

la-648988

18. (Thrice amended) A machine readable medium for use in a computer having a CPU, said medium containing program instructions executable by the CPU for causing the computer system to perform a method for animating movable parts of an object along with music, said method comprising the steps of:

operating a sequencer module that sequentially provides music control information in correspondence with the music to be played, the music control information [containing] including a plurality of types of MIDI event data associated to the music to be played;

operating a parameter setting module to select and set the types of MIDI event data to the movable parts of the object such that the respective movable parts correspond to the types of MIDI event data selected and set by the parameter setting module;

operating an audio module to generate a sound in accordance with the music control information to thereby play the music; and

operating a video module in response to the music control information for controlling movements of the respective movable parts in correspondence to the types of MIDI event data [contained] included in the music control information sequentially provided from the sequencer module, thereby generating a motion image of the object in matching with progression of the music.

la-648988